

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-20 CEQ-02 CIAE-00

COA-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 EPA-04 INR-10 L-03

NSF-04 NSC-10 NSAE-00 PM-07 RSC-01 SS-20 SPC-03

FEA-02 SAM-01 INT-08 DLOS-06 OIC-04 PA-04 PRS-01

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R 011907Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0135

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, XG, GW

SUBJECT: SECOND SESSION OF CONFERENCE ON LAND-BASED
SOURCES OF MARINE POLLUTION

REF: A. STATE 13966, B. LONDON1382, C. STOCKHOLM 337,
D. GENEVA4

1. SUMMARY. FRG ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICIAL CONFIRMED DATA
REPORTED REFS B, C AND D. EMBASSY S&T COUNSELOR
OBTAINED COPY OF DRAFT "PARIS CONVENTION" ON
CONFIDENTIAL BASIS. POUCHED TO SCI/EN, ATTENTION
SALMON. END SUMMARY.

2. FRG INTERPRETATIONS OF SUBJECT CONFERENCE AND DRAFT
CONVENTION DIFFERED IN ONLY FEW POINTS FROM REFTL
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REPORTS. FOR EXAMPLE, FRG REP WAS CONFIDENT THAT DRAFT

CONVENTION WOULD BE COMPLETED DURING NEXT SESSION IN PARIS, FEBRUARY 19-21. ALTHOUGH DRAFT CONVENTION APPEARS TO DEAL ONLY WITH COASTAL AREA, IN FACT IT COVERS OPEN SEA AS WELL BECAUSE POLLUTANTS INTRODUCED AT COAST AND BY RIVERS CONTAMINATE WATERS AT SIGNIFICANT DISTANCES FROM SHORE LINE.

3. DRAFT CONVENTION COMMITS PARTIES TO PREVENT MARINE POLLUTION BY SUBSTANCES INTRODUCED "DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY" (ARTICLE 1B, APPROVED) "...FROM THE COAST..." (ARTICLE 2, APPROVED). THUS, FRG REP ASSUMED POLLUTANTS OF LAND ORIGIN CARRIED BY AIR COULD ALSO BE COVERED.

4. DEFINITIONS (ARTICLE 2) SUGGESTS THAT CONVENTION COVERAGE TERMINATES AT "FRESH WATER LIMIT." FRG REP BELIEVES THIS REPRESENTS, HOWEVER, COMMITMENT BY UPSTREAM STATES TO RESTRICT INTRODUCTION OF POLLUTANTS. HE ASSUMES THAT QUANTITY OF PERMITTED POLLUTANTS WOULD BE APPORTIONED AMONG ALL UP-RIVER STATES, SO THAT QUALITY OF MARINE ENVIRONMENT WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE DEGRADED BELOW AGREED STANDARDS WHICH WOULD BE SET UNDER PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE IV.

5. CONFERENCE DID NOT RPT NOT DISCUSS EXPANSION OF CONVENTION ALTHOUGH FRG ASSUMES THAT IT COULD BE MODEL FOR SIMILAR AGREEMENTS ELSEWHERE.

6. FRG PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR CREATION OF AN "INTERIM COMMISSION." UNDER THIS RESOLUTION, WHICH WAS APPROVED, FRENCH WOULD CONVENE FIRST MEETING OF INTERIM COMMISSION IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1974. ANOTHER RESOLUTION, ALSO ACCEPTED DURING CONFERENCE, PROVIDES THAT MEMBERS OF COMMISSION, WILL, SO FAR AS POSSIBLE, BE SAME PEOPLE AS COMMISSION OF OSLO CONVENTION AND THAT THE TWO COMMISSIONS WILL SHARE A COMMON SECRETARIAT.

7. IN FRG VIEW, STRASBOURG CONVENTION ON PROTECTION OF INTERNATIONAL FRESH WATERS AGAINST POLLUTION (POUCHED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SCI/EN, DECEMBER 20) IS RELEVANT TO LAND-BASED MARINE POLLUTION CONVENTION. FRG REP IS PLEASED THAT STRASBOURG TEXT ALMOST READY FOR APPROVAL. HE BELIEVED IT WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT FOR FRG TO ACCEPT FRESH WATER CONVENTION UNLESS PROVISIONS OF MARINE CONVENTION WERE KNOWN.

8. FRG REP ASSUMED CONVENTION ON PREVENTION OF MARINE

POLLUTION FROM LAND-BASED SOURCES WILL BE CALLED "PARIS
CONVENTION."
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